

The Hickman Courier

No. 46

Thursday, November 29, 2012

75¢

FCSO executes search warrant of meth lab on Cox Road in county

On October 26, at approximately 4 p.m., the Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) and the Marshal County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team (MCSO SRT) executed a search

warrant on a residence at the end of Cox Road that was occupied by Millard Powell. Through investigations it was determined that methamphetamine was being manufactured at this dwelling.

Acting on reports the FCSO had received, Powell had stated he was not going to return to prison. Fulton Co. Sheriff Bobby Hopper made arrangements with the MCSO SRT to secure the dwelling before the search warrant was executed. The MCSO SRT cleared the house and out buildings, no one was found on the property. Officers from the FCSO searched the property, identifying areas where



Millard Powell

See LAB, page 9



Meth Lab Paraphernaia



Beth McWhirt

McWhirt is fourth Fulton County teacher to be National Board Certified

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Beth McWhirt is the fourth Fulton County teacher to achieve one of the highest recognitions a teacher can attain. She received notification on November 17 that she is a National Board Certified teacher. She follows in the footsteps of Deena Morrison (2010), Wendy Stewart and Carla McClure (2009).

Becoming board certified requires teachers to work through a voluntary assessment program designed to develop, recognize and retain accomplished teachers. The performance-based assessment typically takes one to three years to complete. McWhirt was able to fulfill the requirements in one year.

"I had to compile information and data for four portfolio entries," explained McWhirt. "The areas covered in those portfolios include social understanding, citizenship, teaching reasoning through writing and I had to show how

See MCWHIRT, page 8

Nine apply for Hickman City Manager position

Two residents from the city of Hickman and seven others have applied for the city manager position vacated when the Commission, on a 3 to 2 vote, terminated Larry Myatt on October 8. Commissioners Charles Choate, Phillip Williams and Barbara Yandal voted yes on the resolution terminating Myatt, while Mayor David Lattus and Commissioner Roger Adams voted no. Other applicants

are from as close as Union City, Tenn., and as far away as King Salmon, Alaska. The others are from Franklin, Tenn.; Independence, Oregon; Prestonburg, Kentucky; Cordova, Alaska; and Martin, Tenn.

Donna Haney, City Clerk and Interim City Manager stated on Monday, Nov. 26 that the Commissioners were still in the

See APPLICANTS, page 9

Missouri River levels might adversely affect barge traffic on Mississippi

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Drought 2012 was detrimental to barge traffic up and down the Mississippi River last summer. River levels on the Cairo gauge were consistently showing levels in the 10-foot range and lower for many weeks.

In June, the Hickman Harbor was shut down when the river levels dropped below 4.20 on the Hickman gauge in late June when the gauge forecasted levels at 12-feet on the Cairo gauge.

Delays in dredging kept the Hickman-Fulton County Riverport and other businesses in the harbor shut down until the dredge arrived in July, weeks after it was predicted to be here.

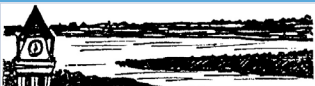
Riverport Director Greg Curlin recently received correspondence from Ed Whitfield and Brett Guthrie, members of Congress, regarding the continuing challenge the drought is having on the Missouri River. "They have locks and dams like we do,"

explained Curlin. "They are trying to hold water up there to keep themselves operating at normal conditions, especially between St. Louis, Mo., and Cairo, Ill." When other rivers, like the Missouri, have to take extreme measures to protect their navigational logistics, it can further complicate river commerce in other parts of the country, including this region.

"As you know, the importance of navigation to the U.S. economy cannot be underestimated or taken for granted. For the U.S. to recover from the economic downturn and the 2012 drought, we must make full use of our God given resources. With that in mind, it has recently come to our attention that barge traffic may come to a halt on the Upper Mississippi River in the coming months, which would cause a logistical nightmare in the impacted states. It is our understanding that measures can be taken, including removing

See LEVELS, page 9

THIS WEEK



OBITUARIES

James P. Madding
George Roberson

RIVER STAGE FORECASTS

OHIO RIVER AT CAIRO, ILL.
Wednesday, Nov. 28 - 9.6
Thursday, Nov. 29 - 9.3
Friday, Nov. 30 - 9.4
Saturday, Dec. 1 - 9.7
Sunday, Dec. 2 - 9.4

INSIDE THIS WEEK

ATC scores well.....Page 2
Hayden's writing.....Page 3
Science Fair winners. ...Page 4
FCMS BasketballPage 5
Obion Baptist.....Page 6
Police/Sheriff/Obits.....Page 7
Missouri River flow.....Page 8
Local News.....Page 9
Open Board seat.....Page 10

Local Weather

Thu 11/29 61/37
Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 30s.

Fri 11/30 61/48
Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 40s.

Sat 12/1 63/54
Cloudy. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 50s.

Sun 12/2 68/55
Cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 50s.

Mon 12/3 70/47
Morning clouds followed by afternoon sun.

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Audit report good for Port, still playing catch up

Charlotte Smith
Editor

"Pretty consistent" was the comment Rhonda Henderson with Martin, Colson, and Hale made when describing the Port's financial statements for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2012. "You received an unqualified opinion," she added on Tuesday afternoon, Nov. 20. "This is the highest opinion you can receive. Your financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Port."

The only recommendation Henderson had was regarding GAP (General Accepted Principal) statements. "Most businesses like the Port do not have anyone on hand that can prepare the financial statements in house," she said. "The staff knows what they are doing. They aren't CPAs and even though it would be good to have someone on hand to prepare these statements, it is

not beneficial for the Riverport Authority to hire one."

The October 2012 Operating Report reflects maintenance repairs and expenses for a crane that is now approximately 40 years old. "We need to add more for our crane repair expenses when we plan our next budget," stated Riverport Director Greg Curlin, "or we need to look into purchasing a new crane".

"Barge totals through October 2012 are still down when comparing numbers to the same time during the last fiscal year," stated Assistant Director Amy Williamson. "We are working hard to catch up and maybe we will get there slowly but surely. November barges are not in those figures. We will finish on the plus side for the month of November."

Williamson and Curlin predict the Port will catch up on their

See PORT, page 8



2012 OVERALL SCIENCE FAIR WINNER - Daisy Major, seventh grader, was the overall winner in the 2012 science fair at Fulton County Elementary/Middle School. Winners were announced on Tuesday, Nov. 20. See more winners on pages 4 and 8. (Photos by Barbara Atwill.)



FULTON COUNTY ALUMNI PARTICIPATE IN 2ND ANNUAL BROADWAY PIZZA ALUMNI NIGHT - On Tuesday, Nov. 20 nine FCHS alumni participated in the 2nd Annual Broadway Pizza Alumni Night including (front row, l to r) Brad Carlton, Chuck Murphy, Larry Don Jones, and Corey Smith; (back row, l to r) Marty Dinwiddie, James Bridges, PJ Warlick, Russell Stray and Bruce Elam. (See more photos on page 9.) (Photo by Charlotte Smith.)

District looks to improve test scores while being fiscally responsible

Charlotte Smith
Editor

After hearing good news for the month, which included Beth McWhirt passing her National Board Certification for Early Adolescence in Social Studies and the 3.98 out of 4 ranking for the Fulton County Area Technology Center, the Fulton County School Board listened to a dismal financial report and a review of the district's test scores. The lengthy school board meeting, held Tuesday evening, Nov. 20, also included a finance review, training session and professional development for the school board members.

Auditor Jason H. Anderson, from Alexander Thompson Arnold (ATA) reported on the previous fiscal year ending June 30, 2012. While the audit findings found no significant difficulties during the audit process, Anderson did paint a less than rosy picture of the future as state funding continues to decrease.

"During the prior year (FY 2011) you broke even," stated Anderson. "This past year, however, your total revenue was down \$947,100." This is attributed mostly to the loss of the Gear Up grant that went away.

One area that has remained consistent is payroll. "Payroll figures have remained very consistent," he said. "Local taxes are pretty much in line with last year, as well." In 2012, \$198,000,000 revenue was generated from taxes and the year before, 2011, it was \$191,000,000.

"We are hearing that there will be more cuts coming from the state," continued Anderson. "With the \$242,000 loss already, that is something to keep in mind. There is evidence the district should look at funding and view the spending side of the ledger. I know it is sort of bad news."

Currently the district is fine with \$1.2 million in contingency and carry over funds so the dis-

trict will be financially stable. "If things continue," Anderson pointed out. "You will eventually not be able to adequately fund the district."

"We are current with all our projects," noted Superintendent Dennis Bledsoe. "We are in the black."

"Yes you are solvent," answered Anderson. "But the operating period was a loss, losing more than \$400,000."

Mr. Bledsoe reports, he has informed the board for the past two years of the financial cliff that all schools are facing with reduced grants, grant conclusion, and lower state dollars. "We had planned for the anticipated reduction and did not spend the reported loss of funds which allowed us to continue to operate in the black," stated Supt. Bledsoe. "The board members and the central office staff have been good stewards

See SCHOOL, page 10

THE HICKMAN COURIER
THE VOICE OF HICKMAN AND FULTON COUNTY

Charlotte Smith - Editor

Barbara Atwill - Business manager

Established in 1859. The oldest newspaper in West Kentucky.

Turning Back The Clock

25 Years Ago
February 11, 1988
Obituaries: Maud Stahr Rush, 99; Teola Smith Maddox, 77; Dr. William Clifton Moore, 72; and W.G. Hardison, 82.

•
W.B. “Dub” Sowell of Hickman underwent emergency surgery in Orlando, Fla., on Feb. 2, while he was on vacation.

•
Mr. and Mrs. CW Morrow were honored with a surprise party on their 25th anniversary by their daughters, Debbie Amberg and Lisa McCollum. Mr. and Mrs. Morrow have three grandchildren: J.P. Amberg, Macie Amberg and Thomas Cole McCollum, all of Hickman.

•
There were no serious injuries reported after a Fulton County School bus overturned last Thursday afternoon while enroute to a basketball game in Heath. There were 18 persons on the bus including ballplayers, managers and coaches. The driver of the bus, Paul Harrison, was taken to Parkway Regional Hospital and kept overnight for observation after blacking out while driving the bus.

•
Those who helped Mrs. Mae Campbell celebrate her 89th birthday Monday, Feb. 8, at Parkway Nursing Home were Mrs. Doris Hepler, Mrs. Sue Campbell, Mrs. Louise Scarce, Mrs. Elsie Bequette and Mrs. Hazel Hutchins.

50 Years Ago
April 25, 1963
Billy Ramsey, Ritz employee, will take over as manager beginning Sunday, April 28.

•
Three tragedies occurred in Hickman Thursday: a local RECC lineman suffered a fractured skull in a freak accident; a two-year-old child was bitten by a copperhead; and a retired Hickman trucker died suddenly while preparing to go on a fishing trip. Henry Cooley, 42, RECC lineman, suffered a fractured skull and brain concussion after setting up and electrical pole about a mile southwest of Clinton. Robert Pair, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Pair, was bitten on the index finger of his right hand by a copperhead snake at his home at Mills Point Village; and Artie Williams, 79, died about 4:00 p.m. after he was taken ill while preparing to go on a fishing trip.

75 Years Ago
April 29, 1938
The senior class of the local high school under the sponsorship of Miss Vivian Caldwell, will give a silver tea next Friday afternoon between the hours of three and five at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H.C. Dubia east of the city. The proceeds will be used to defray expenses of “The Bluff.”

•
Wendell Choate, Vanderbilt Freshman and son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Choate of Hickman, won the mile race between the university Frosh track team and the Hume-Fogg High team Friday in Nashville. Choate’s running mate came in second.

•
The firm of Peavler and Laird on Tuesday purchased the Rogers Beauty Parlor, formerly owned by Mrs. Maybelle Rogers, who leaves soon to make her home in Paducah. Miss Agnes Hatley will operate the establishment for Peavler and Laird.

•
Action by the House Monday in approving \$2,613,000 appropriation for the beginning of work on the Gilbertsville Dam on the Tennessee River finally committed Congress to the building of the last and greatest link in the TVA system.

125 Years Ago
April 29, 1888
The Mississippi river is falling rapidly. The farmers are badly in need of rain, but are busy plowing and planting.

•
The Hickman Ice Factory made its first regular “freeze” yesterday. Some of the cakes had fish frozen in them. Here after a regular freeze will be made every twenty-four hours, according to the demand of the market.

•
A company has submitted propositions to the City Council of Hickman to supply the city with gas, the privilege running for fifty years. The proposition will be considered. The Courier thinks the council will be slow to contract for further taxation at present, in a year or two, when present city bands are all paid, some new enterprises may be in order.

Pecan production is the ultimate exercise in patience

By Cam Kenimer, Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

As previously mentioned in this space, 2012 appears to have been an excellent year for fruit and nut production. Pecan trees produced as large of a crop as anyone can remember. Many of those trees have already dropped the majority of their nuts while others are still holding on to theirs. Pecan production is largely an exercise in patience, taking several years to grow the tree large enough to produce nuts.

Precocity is a term used in pecan breeding that refers to the amount of time it takes a variety to begin nut bearing. A seedling tree, which is simply a tree that originates from planting a pecan, may take 15-20 years to begin bearing nuts. A grafted tree is when wood from an older tree is grafted onto the rootstock of an established tree. Depending on the variety, grafted trees can begin producing nuts as early as 5 years after grafting. Although uncommon, I’ve seen grafted trees produce nuts the very next year after grafting.

So, what’s the best path to take if you want to grow pecans? Well, it depends on your timetable and level of patience. Buying a grafted tree is one of the quickest ways to get home grown pecans, but it can be difficult to find grafted trees and they can be quite expensive. If you go this route, make sure to purchase a tree with northern rootstock. Even though our winters recently have been quite mild, a return to a more normal weather pattern could result in a dead tree.

If you’re fortunate enough to have some seedling pecan trees growing around your house or farm, you can get nut production faster by grafting onto that tree. One of the quicker producing varieties, Kanza, can begin bearing regular crops in 4-5 years. Kanza is a USDA release from a cross between Major and Shoshoni. Although this nut is not overly large, averaging about 70 per pound, the flavor is outstanding and it cracks easily.

If you want to or have to start producing pecans from scratch, buy some seedling trees from the KY Division of Forestry, (270) 247-3913, and plant them in the spring. You’ll need to let them grow for 2-4 years before grafting onto them. The general rule of thumb is that you want at least two feet of new growth in a season before grafting. So, the more care you give them, the faster you’ll be able to graft and get closer to having homegrown pecans.

A few words of caution: when choosing a variety, bigger is not always better. Trees that produce big pecans may fill poorly as they get older and their flavor is not usually as good. Many western Kentuckians would much rather have the smaller nuts off of the native or seedling trees. However, as a good friend of mine said, “you could starve yourself to death trying to get enough nuts to eat from these small nuts”. Also, you will need two varieties that pollinate each other or another tree in close proximity to ensure production. Finally, in a home environment, select for disease and insect



FULTON COUNTY AREA TECHNOLOGY CENTER AMONG ELITE - Fulton County Area Technology (ATC) Instructor Jenny Page (front, left) and Principal Tom Pyron (front, right) are pictured with students from Fulton County, Fulton Independent, and Hickman County and are pleased with the results of the ATC’s recent assessment evaluation. They scored a 3.98 out of 4, making them among the top technology centers in the state. (Photo by Charlotte Smith.)

Area Technology Center among the state’s elite

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Each year the staff at the Fulton County Area Technology Center (ATC) submits data assessing their programs. Every two years a team from Frankfort comes to perform their own evaluation pouring over all the documentation that Principal Tom Pyron and his staff compile. This year the ATC, which serves students from Fulton County, Fulton Independent and Hickman County schools, received a 3.98 rating out of 4.

“This is the best we have ever

done,” stated Pyron, who has been at the ATC for 21 years. “It puts us up there among the elite in the state.” Over the last four assessments the technology center has improved their program assessment scores. In 2006-2007 it was 3.71, 2008-2009 it went up to 3.88 and two years ago it was a 3.92.

There are 17 standards assessed by the team from Frankfort including areas, such as, curriculum, lesson/unit plans, student achievement, student recognition, and post secondary links, which is important

for career and college readiness. Other standards include perkins performance measures, program area safety and student safety, which they received a 4.0 rating in. Other standards receiving ratings of 4.0 were student organization, public relations, families and community contributions, advisory committee, industry accreditation, work-based learning, professional growth, program improvement plan and technology in instruction.

Four of the programs at the ATC received 4.0 ratings in-

cluding Information Technology, Business, Auto Technology, and Health Science.

“We work hard to provide the best possible instruction for students from all three area schools and are proud that with students and staff working, we have been able to keep a high standard in our school,” concluded Pyron, “There are many exciting possibilities at the ATC for students to prepare for college and for beginning their careers if they will fully take advantage of the opportunities.”

LEPC looks to widen circle of individual preparedness

Charlotte Smith
Editor

Twenty-nine business professionals, elected officials, and school personnel, all members of the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), gathered in the meeting room of the Hickman-Fulton Counties RECC on Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. Various topics including TAB Q progress and updates on CERT, Radio Grant, and special projects were discussed with Hugh Caldwell, Fulton County Emergency Management Director presiding.

The LEPC is working to widen their circle of awareness and one area they are working on is individual preparedness. “It is recommended that you have enough supplies on hand for 72 hours during an emergency,” stated Caldwell. “I suggest that you have seven days.”

Not only is it important to be ready for disasters such as ice storms, flooding or hurricanes, but also incidents involving hazardous materials. “We have approximately five or six industries that handle hazardous materials,” stated Caldwell. “We have a responsibility to inform the public on the importance of being prepared for and planning for not only natural disasters but also events involving hazardous materials.”

Rick Garland asked how the railroad plays in the LEPC. “We are trying to get them more involved,” responded Caldwell.

“Everyone remembers the incident in 2007 when there was an evacuation of a third of Fulton for about a day and a half when a hazardous material incident occurred,” recalled Kenney Etherton. Etherton is a Deputy Emergency Management Director for Fulton County and also serves on the Haz Mat 1 board of out of Paducah.

The status of CodeRED was brought up by Fulton Police Chief Terry Powell. “I understand we had some issues when we switched from One Call to CodeRED,” he said. “Can you update us on the status of Code

RED?”

“CodeRED isn’t that user friendly,” Caldwell did say. “One Call was much better, but we are learning to use CodeRED. We are working to get all cell phone numbers transferred over to CodeRED. “I want the public to know that they need to contact us to include their cell phone numbers into the new system,” said Caldwell. The number to call to add your cell phone number to the CodeRED system is 236-3480. This is very important for those who only have cell phones and not landlines at their residences

Another issue being addressed is the mapping system. Fulton County Sheriff Bobby Hopper mentioned that new equipment coming in at the end of the month should rectify the mapping issue.

A Search And Rescue (SAR) Grant to purchase updated extraction equipment for the Fulton County-City of Hickman Rescue Squad was applied for and received. “The original amount applied for was \$21,500,” said Caldwell. “We were awarded \$18,000. We have contacted

an area industry to help make up the difference.” The equipment currently used by the rescue squad is 27 years old. “They currently can only operate one piece of equipment at a time,” added Caldwell. “They need to be able to do both cut and spread at the same time to be more efficient.”

The status of county-wide dispatch was given by Sheriff Hopper. “New equipment will be installed during the last week of November,” he said. “It will be operational shortly after that and training will also be completed. The 190 foot tower installed is pretty sufficient providing appropriate coverage for Fulton.” He did add that the City of Hickman will be joining them around December 17 and an open house will be held in the future for everyone to visit the new facility.

Currently the county’s dispatch is an SSAP (Secondary Safety Answering Point) and is currently working toward becoming a PSAP (Primary Safety Answering Point), allowing 911 calls to come directly into the county’s dispatch center in-

stead of being routed through the Kentucky State Police Post 1 in Mayfield.

Training dates in January, upcoming meetings including the District Hazard Mitigation Meeting on November 26 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. at the PADD office and a walk through at Stella Jones on November 27 at 6 p.m. were also noted.

All those in attendance include the following: Hugh Caldwell, Fulton Co. EM, J.L. Atwill Fulton Co. EM, Kenny Etherton, Fulton Co. EM/ Fulton Co. Transit Authority, David Gallagher, Fulton Co. Judge/ Executive, Robert Hopper, Fulton Co. Sheriff, Carol Parker, Fulton Co. EM Administrative Assistant, Sean McMahon, U.S. Coast Guard, Dale Jackson, Fulton Co. Schools, Rick Garland, Fulton Co. Schools, Ross Kerr, SGL Carbon, Cam Kenimer U.K. Extension, David Lattus, Mayor City of Hickman, Charlotte Smith, Hickman Courier, Cubb R. Stokes, Fulton City Manager, Elaine Forrester, Mayor of Fulton, Terry Powell, Police Chief, Fulton, Terry Rudolph, Fulton Fire Department, Mike Gun, Chief, Fulton Fire Department, Brad Buford, Tri-Cities Ambulance Service, Wayne Kusmierczuk, Stella Jones, Jody Jackson, Stella Jones, Keith Alexander, LG&E Ky. Utilities, Brian Claypool, LG&E Ky Utilities, Debbie Weatherford, Hickman-Fulton Co. RECC, Devon Fontain, Cargill, Dale Vowell, Hickman Electric System, Greg Curlin, Hickman Fulton Co. Riverport, Susan Yandell, Hawes Memorial, and Nancy Tynes, Hawes Memorial.



THANKSGIVING REWARDS - Members of S.A.I.L. After School Program were treated to a Thanksgiving meal on Tuesday, Nov. 20, following a lesson on manners. Those serving the meal included clockwise, Marlene Lohrum, middle school director, Monika Bodon, Kim Gooch, Aletha Westbrooks, Bridget Atwill, and Rebecca Kimmons. (Photo by Barbara Atwill)

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Cayce - Cayce Cafe, Cayce Junction, and Cayce Oil & Lube

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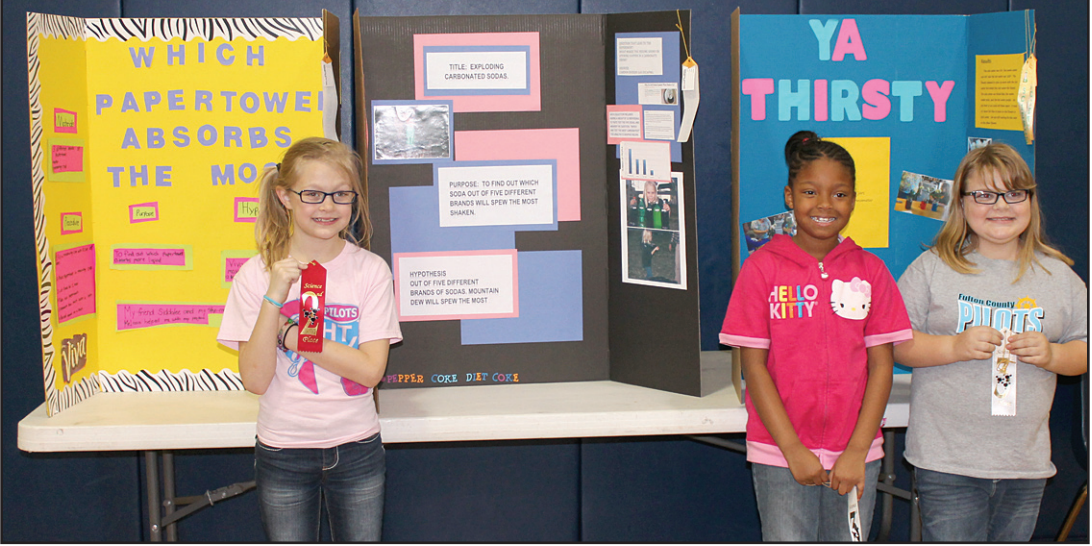
Students show off their scientific minds during science fair



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in first grade were (l to r) Logan Griffith, second place; Hannah Varden, first place; and Christian Smith, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in second grade were (l to r) Kaylee Young, second place; Luke Jackson, first place; and Wesley Brown, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in third grade were (l to r) Amanda Newton, 2nd place; Virginia Varden (not pictured), first place; and Dy'Ayria Kinney and Maddy Morrison, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in fourth grade were (l to r) Broc Bridges and Greyson Grissom, second place; Will Jackson and Remington Stewart, (tied) first place; and Seth Jones, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in fifth grade were (l to r) Grace Elder, second place; Quinn Johnson, first place; and Lydia Klotz and Sarah Burkett, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in sixth grade were (l to r) Jake Mayo, second place; Noah Miller, first place; and Ty Warren, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in seventh grade were (l to r) Brandon Willis, Nick Buckland, and Olivia Wilson, second place; Daisy Major, first place; and Josie Prehoda and Haley Hartman, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - (At left) Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in kindergarten were (l to r) Hannah Murphy, first place and Jackson Major, second place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)





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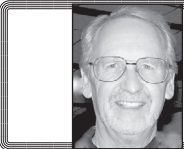
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Sports In Kentucky
For the Hickman Courier
By Bob Watkins

One of the Unforgettables, Sean Woods’ tantrum-laced visit to Rupp Arena last week was, well, forgettable. Maybe.

A question lingers. Was Woods’ open mouth policy in Lexington gaffe or gumption? Says here the Devon Atkinson episode was gaffe. All else from Woods was gumption, and guts to speak his mind.

First, trying to show fans (and media) how Pitino-like he is – no back-down – Woods became too feisty on the sideline and gave in to anger. To put hands on a player in anger was taboo forever. To do it in public, witnessed by tweeters, YouTubers, gossiping grannys and Sportscenter scouts, is to walk to the edge of foolishness and jump. Given the venue and communication devices, a one-game suspension is the greatest escape since Steve McQueen motorcycled over the wire.

I believe Woods showed up aggravated. Out of sorts. Offended that current UK players “don’t get it” don’t appreciate that his place as an Unforgettable in the annals of Big Blue history is ho-hum to those playing in Jay Bilas’ new age.

“The vibe,” Woods said, among current Kentucky players, is disappointing.

That a Kentucky player had no clue about Christian Laetter’s place in UK basketball lore, was unfathomable and pushed Woods to the brink of talking about the elephant in the room. One-and-the-League.

Like this question: “These kids come to Kentucky and, because they’re only going to be here a semester or two, they aren’t required to learn a little

history about the winningest program in the country?”

Willie Cauley-Stein’s ignorance about Laettner rankled Woods, but more, it is evidence John Calipari’s “players” are not required to know something/anything about basketball history here.

Woods: “There’s just a certain way and a certain look Kentucky basketball players should have. Not have such sense of entitlement. I think today it’s still an honor to wear that uniform.”

A Eureka Moment. One that begs for epilogue. Reflect hard truth about where the young man’s game as it applies to Kentucky basketball is today. To wit: “Hey man, you had your time. Now it’s our time and we’re not into all this UK history stuff, we’re headed to the league.”

By the time Woods and his team suited up to be fodder for the Wildcats, their coach had to be seething. Then, along came Atkinson who broke all player protocols by talking back to his coach in the heat of a moment instead of taking a seat and sticking a towel into his mouth.

When the game was in the books, tempers cooled and time came for coach spin, Woods retreated. Humbled by his gaffe (Atkinson), he showed some ball coach gumption. He tossed Calipari a bone, praising his success, then went away hoping Morehead State can keep a place in line for another UK check to cash into Morehead State Athletics account.

STOOPS WOULD BE A FIT

Since Mitch Barnhart probably couldn’t get Pat Fitzgerald away from Northwestern anyway, a candidate Kentucky’s director of athletics interviewed last week for the football job, looks to be a good one.

Lots to like about Mark Stoops beginning with his current job title, Defensive Coordinator at Florida State. Maybe Barnhart has come to grips with the Rule of Iron in the SEC: To win in this league, defense does it. Period.

Stoops. Before the 2012 season, for what it’s worth, television analyst Kirk Herbstreit put him among the

top five defensive minds in college football today after Nick Saban, Gary Patterson, Bo Pelini and Will Muschamp.

Stoops is young at 45. One of six children, four of whom played then became football coaches, Stoops learned sibling survival skills early and grew a passion to compete.

He played in the Big Ten at Iowa, then coached on the Iowa staff.

Before this season, Stoops told a reporter, “Sure I have aspirations to be a head coach someday. I’m just always trying to improve myself and be the best coach I can be.”

The college coach carousel has barely started to turn, but it’s already gotten interesting. Stay tuned.

WORTH REPEATING DEPT.

Basketball Homecoming at Berea College.

The Mountaineers stormed back from 21 down to win, 77-67. Greatest part of the story, kids on Berea’s team have jobs on campus. They sleep in the same dorms as other students. Some of the guys work on Sunday at their campus jobs, but manage to get ready for class on Monday. Great victory for guys getting a great education and playing a game. Genuine student athletes. Go Mounties!”

Mark Boes, Berea, Ky.

UNEMPLOYED SYMPATHIES

Our Sympathies go out this week to the unemployed including:

- Derek Dooley had a \$5 million buy out.
- Joker Phillips gets \$2 million-plus for two years.
- Best (and most outrageous) for last, ex-ball coach at Auburn, Gene Chizik will receive \$208,333 per month through the end of 2015.

Comment: Auburn University deserves Bobby Petrino.

PARTING SHOT

Philosophy of ball coaching? “Effective communication is 25% what you know, 35% how you feel about it, and 110% effort to make what comes out of your mouth not sound like horse manure.”

And so it goes

Tale of two halves drops Jr. Lady Pilots

Charles Choate
Courier Correspondent

For the second time this season, the Fulton County Middle School Lady Pilots mounted a big comeback effort in the second half, only to lose the game by two points.

The latest effort came last week when the Lady Pilots bounced back from a 21-7 third quarter deficit, to fall 30-28 to district foe Carlisle County.

The loss was the teams third straight, and has coach Merry Williams searching for ways to get “over the hump”.

“We’re not quitting when we get behind, but we have got to learn how to win these games,” said the coach following the game. “We’re getting to far behind and having to catch up. This is the second time this has happened and we missed enough easy shots and free throws to have won both of the games.”

Losing 19-7 at halftime, the Lady Pilots began their comeback with the help of Alana Coffey and Leslie Beth Jackson, who spurred the momentum in the third quarter with an 11-8 run.

The play of Coffey and Jackson continued into the fourth quarter, with Coffey bombing a 3-point shot at the 4:55 mark to cut the lead to 27-22.

Jackson edged the middle school team even closer with 3:56 to play, when her two free throws made the score 27-24.

The 6-0 Pilot run was countered by a Lady Comet basket, but Jackson again cut the lead to three points, 29-26, on a shot in the paint.

The Jr. Pilots cut the game to its closest margin, 30-28 with :17 to play, when Coffey hit two free throws.

After a quick Carlisle County turnover, Fulton County had a chance to tie the game, but a shot by Detija Giles would not fall with :06 to play.

Coffey finished as the games high scorer with 12 points, followed by Jackson’s 7 points.

Alley McMillan had 4 points in the game, with Jocelyn Mosley and Kylira Williams both adding 2 points each. Detija Giles scored one point.

Carlisle County was led by McKenna Edging with 9 points.



STRONG REBOUND - Fulton County's Leah Weatherly (33) and Jocelyn Mosely (15) battle for a rebound, as Carlisle County's Kimberly Thomas (3) stretches for the ball. The play came during the district match-up last week at Fulton County, in which the Lady Comets prevailed in Middle School play, 30-28. (Photo by Charles Choate.)



CHARITY TOSS - Fulton County Middle School player Alana Coffey (5) buries a free throw during the fourth quarter of their game against Carlisle County last week. Coffey led the Jr. Lady Pilots with 12 points on the night, but it was not enough as the Lady Comets won the game 30-28. (Photo by Charles Choate.)

Virgin's bombs light up Jr. Comets



BOXING OUT - D.J. Virgin (35) places a block on Carlisle Counties Jacob Reddick (35) after a free throw attempt in last weeks game. Virgin came off the bench to light up the Comets with 18 points, including four 3-point shots. The Jr. Pilots beat Carlisle County 48-24 to remain undefeated. (Photo by Charles Choate.)



POWER BOARD - Fulton County Middle School center Jake Russell (32) goes strong for a rebound in the teams 48-24 win over Carlisle County. The Jr. Pilots led the entire game and ran their season record to (5-0) overall, (3-0) in district play. (Photo by Charles Choate.)

Charles Choate
Courier Correspondent

Fulton County Middle School coach James Bridges said he had one message for D.J. Virgin when he entered the game against Carlisle County last week.

Shoot the ball.

And did the Jr. Pilot listen.

Virgin came off the bench and knocked down four 3-point shots, leading the team to a 48-24 win and still undefeated record at (5-0).

“D.J. did a heck of a job,” said Bridges after the game. “He knocked those shots down and played hard. He does it in practice. That is why when I called him up to go in, I just said shoot the ball.”

The Jr. Pilots were never contested in the game, going on top 10-0 in the first quarter on Virgin’s first try.

The lead grew to 17-2 in the second quarter on a Davis Major put back, and then 20-3 on another long range bomb by Virgin.

Fulton County continued to press the issue on the offensive end in the second half, taking their biggest lead, 48-18 in the fourth quarter on a Jake Russell shot.

The win ran the Jr. Pilots district record to (3-0) and has coach Bridges feeling good about the team.

“I think we are the team to beat. We have played great together on offense and defensively we are really aggressive. We get after teams for rebounds and with our press. I am happy where we are now”.

Virgin was the games high scorer on the night with 18 points, followed by Dre Smith with 13.

Davis Major had 10, Natenav Bransford scored 3 and Jake Russell and Taylor Sipes each added 2 points.

Carlisle County was led on the night with 10 points by Austin Willis.

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1/7	Hickman Co.	5 (7B/8G/8B)
1/10	Black Oak	5 (7G/8G/8B)
1/15	Comm. Christian*	5 (8G/8B)
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Fulton and Hickman Counties Church Page

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Obituaries

James P. Madding

James P. Madding, 81, a resident of the Cayce, Ky., community died November 20, 2012, at Parkway Regional Hospital.

Born April 3, 1931 in Fulton County, Ky., he was the son of the late Radie Bell (French) and George Curtis Madding. He was a longtime member of the Cayce Baptist Church, where he was a former Sunday School teacher. He was a U.S. Army veteran and was an avid hunter and fisherman. He had been a machinist for the former Sigri Carbon in Hickman, Ky., for many years. He returned to this area in 1970 after residing in Chicago, Ill. and New Mexico.

Survivors include his wife,

George Roberson

Mr. George Roberson, 90, a resident of Union City, Tenn., formerly of Hickman, Ky., died November 19, 2012, at Baptist Memorial Hospital in Union City.

Born November 18, 1922, in Hickman, he was the son

Peggy Ann (Bershers) Madding of the Cayce community; one daughter, Samantha Ann Dean of the Cayce community; one step-son, Jessie Mack Bohannon, Jr. of Newbern, Tenn.; one step-daughter, Rena Katherine Bohannon of Ledbetter, Ky.; five grandchildren, Jeremy Lynn Dean, Joshua Bohannon, Jason Bohannon, Lindsey Brooke Bohannon and Loren Ashley Bohannon and two great-grandchildren.

Four brothers, Rev. Marvin Madding, Joseph Curtis Madding, Roy Madding, and Robert E. Madding, and three sisters, Mary Agnes Sampson, Sue E. Wiseman and Rosie B. Roberts, preceded him in death.

A memorial celebration of life was held November 25 with Rev. Michael Farmer officiating.

of the late Elliot and Lula (Giles) Roberson. He attended Riverview High School and retired from Solo Cup Company in Chicago, Ill. after 20 years of service. He was a member of Bray Temple C.M.E. Church in Chicago, where he served as a steward for 50 years and as an usher for 45 years.

Survivors include one daughter, Helen (Charles) Harvey of Hickman; one stepdaughter, Dorothy Williams of Chicago; two grandchildren, Alyssa Harvey of Bowling Green, Ky., and Christopher (Felicia) Harvey of Milwaukee, Wisc.; three step-grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, La'Kia Harvey and Alisha Mayberry; two nieces, Juanita Holmes of Niles, Mich., and Olivia Reddick of Chicago; one nephew, James Taylor of Sacramento, Calif.; and special friends, Hazel and James McComico and Helen Barney.

Two wives, Lola Taylor Roberson and Annie Johnson Roberson, and one sister Blanche Roberson, preceded him in death.

Services were held November 23, 2012, at Pleasant Hill Missionary Baptist Church with Rev. James Roberson officiating. Burial followed in Hickman City Cemetery.

Rawls Funeral Home - Union City was in charge of arrangements.



NEW TOOL FOR SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT - As part of a promotional program with Town & Country Motorsports in Murray, KY and Kawasaki the Fulton County Sheriff's Office was able to secure the use/loan of a new 2012 Kawasaki Tyrex 4. Sheriff Hopper is very grateful to Town & Country and Kawasaki for allowing his department the use of this vehicle. It's an essential piece of equipment that will assist this department in serving and protecting the citizens in Fulton County. (Photo submitted.)

Fulton County Sheriff's News

The Fulton County Sheriff's Department reports these arrests and citations for Thursday, Nov. 22 – Monday, Nov. 26:

Thursday, Nov. 22:

- Adam Rash of Dothan, Ala., white male, arrested, speeding 100/55 mph; fleeing or evading police, 1st Degree (motor vehicle); operating motor vehicle under influence alcohol, drugs, etc. 08 (agg circumstances) 1st offense; possession of controlled substance, 1st Degree, 1st offense (drug unspecified) (4 counts); prescription controlled substance not in proper container, 1st Offense; reckless driving, possession of open alcohol beverage in motor vehicle.

Friday, Nov. 23:

- Ocie Smith of Hickman, Ky., black male, arrested, intimidating a participant in the legal process.
- Jack Welch of Clarksville, Tenn., white male, citation, speeding 70/55 mph.
- Stacey Wiley of Fulton, Ky., white female, arrested, failure to appear.
- Christopher L. Smith of Hickman, black male, arrested, operating on a suspended/revoked operator's license, failure to surrender revoked operator's license, possession of marijuana, failure of non-owner to maintain required insurance.

Saturday, Nov. 24:

- Christopher L. Smith of

Hickman, black male, arrested, trafficking in controlled substance, 1st Degree, 2nd offense (8 counts), persistent felony offender.

- Christopher L. Smith of Hickman, black male, arrested, trafficking in controlled substance, 1st Degree, 2nd offense (2 counts), persistent felony offender.

Monday, Nov. 26:

- Robert B. Hardy of Fulton, white male, arrested, burglary 1st degree (2 counts).



WHERE IN HICKMAN? - Last week Jamie Johnson knew the pig was on Ivy Street. Do you know where this Christmas Pole was found on Tuesday? If you do, call us after 9 a.m. on Friday to win 4 weeks of The Hickman Courier. (Photo by Charlotte Smith.)

Hickman Police Department News

The Hickman Police Department reports these arrests, citations, investigations and fire calls for Hickman and Cayce Volunteer Fire Departments for Sunday, Nov. 18 – Saturday, Nov. 24:

Sunday, Nov. 18:

- Responded to a disturbance at C & A Bar and Grill.
- Responded to a call at C & A Bar and Grill – report taken for criminal mischief.
- Responded to a fight in progress call on Nelson St.

Monday, Nov. 19:

- Investigated a gas drive off from Little General.
- Responded to an animal complaint on Troy Ave.
- Hickman Vol. Fire Dept responded to a fire on State Route 2134.

Tuesday, Nov. 20:

- Hickman Vol. Fire Dept. responded to a rekindle on State Route 2134.
- Investigated a suspicious person on Moscow Ave.
- Responded to an animal complaint at Fulton Co. Elementary.
- Responded to a call on Terrace Dr.
- Traffic stop on State Route 94.

- Traffic stop on 7th St.
- Responded to a call on 7th St.

Wednesday, Nov. 21:

- Responded to a residential burglar alarm on Bernal Ave.
- Responded to a call on Myron Cory Dr.
- Responded to a call on 5th St.

Thursday, Nov. 22:

- Traffic stop on E. Magnolia St – Samuel Barfield cited for multiple offensives.
- Hickman Vol. Fire Dept. responded to a call on E Magnolia St.
- Hickman Vol. Fire Dept. responded to a call on Ivey St.
- Took a report for harassing communications.

Friday, Nov. 23:

- Responded to an animal complaint on Moscow Ave.
- Traffic stop on State Route 125.
- Traffic stop on State Route 125.
- Traffic stop on Union City Hwy.
- Traffic stop on 7th St.

Saturday, Nov. 24:

- Responded to a commercial burglar alarm on Broadway St.
- Traffic stop on Moscow Ave.
- Warrant served on Tamara Rinks.

Bluff Briefs

Rebels Quartet to perform at FUMC

The Rebels Quartet will perform a gospel music concert at First United Methodist Church of Hickman on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 2:30 p.m. Everyone in the community is invited to attend. Come join us for a wonderful musical offering to start the Advent season. There is no cost but a love offering will be taken up. The church is located at 105 Wellington Street across from the courthouse.

Second Annual Taste of the Holidays

Fulton County Senior Citizens will be presenting their second Annual Taste of the Holidays - Fulton County on Thursday, Nov. 29, 2012, from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Fulton County Senior Citizens building, 1404 Liberty Street, Hickman, Kentucky. We will have delicious food tasting and lots and lots of door prizes. This year the Senior Center will be making Christmas crafts as part of their fund-raising. You just might be able to find that special gift that you have been looking for. Come and do your Christmas shopping with us. Tickets are \$6 in advance or \$8 at the door. Ticket Holder will receive a cookbook of all the recipes for the night and a bag full of goodies. Tickets are available at the Hickman Senior Center or at the Fulton Senior Center. Come on out and kick off the Christmas season with us and enjoy an evening of taste testing, door prizes, shopping and great fellowship.

Santa Letters

The Hickman Courier will begin accepting Santa Letters on Monday, Nov. 26 to be published in the Courier on December 20. We will accept them by email (hickmancourier@bellsouth.net, mail), P.O. Box 70, Hickman, KY 42050, or dropped off at the office.

Recycling of paper products to be at Cayce

Recycling of paper products, (newsprint, paper, and cardboard) will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2012, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., at the Cayce Fire Department.

Lake Chapel Pastor's 12th Anniversary

Lake Chapel will host their Pastor's 12th Anniversary on Sunday, Dec. 2 at 3 p.m. A dinner will be held at 1 p.m. at Pleasant Hill Fellowship Hall. Guest speaker will be Pastor Stan Montgomery of Beechgrove MBC in Rutherford, Tenn.

Authorities nab two, searching for Moffitt

Two of Fulton County's Most Wanted individuals were recently apprehended. Diantae K. Smith was arrested during a traffic stop conducted by the

Fulton County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) on November 16. Two days earlier Otis K. Coleman was arrested by the Fulton Police Department. Both Smith and Coleman are being lodged in the Fulton County Detention Center.

Now the FCSO is focusing their attention on Terry Moffitt, 30. Moffitt's last known address is Chapel Road, South Fulton, Tenn. He is 5' 9" tall and weighs 190 pounds with brown hair and eyes. Moffitt's charges include two counts of Theft By Deception (cold checks), numerous failure to appear warrants for (31) counts of Theft by Deception, drug and other misc. charges.

If you know the whereabouts of this subject, please contact the FSCO at 270-236-2545 or any law enforcement agency.



Moffitt



MAKING BALLOONS - Mindy Major mans the balloon making booth during the PTO Fall Fest on Nov. 9. (Photo submitted.)



ART BOOTH - Tamra Parker (left) paints in the art booth with a participant during the PTO Fall Fest held at Fulton County Elementary/Middle School on Friday, Nov. 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

An ordinance amending the Fulton County Budget for Fiscal Year 12/13, to include unanticipated receipts from the Dispatch Services in the amount of \$180,000.00 and increasing expenditures in the area of Dispatch Fund was adopted by the Fulton County Fiscal Court on November 13, 2012. A copy of the adopted ordinance with full text is available for public inspection at the Office of the County Judge/Executive during normal business hours.

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FULTON COUNTY FISCAL COURT ORDINANCE 2012-05

AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNTY OF FULTON, KENTUCKY REGARDING VICIOUS AND DESTRUCTIVE ANIMALS

The Fiscal Court of Fulton County has elected in response to overwhelming concerns and requests for certain restrictions and requirements to be placed upon the ownership of harboring of dogs or other animals that are deemed to be destructive or a threat to the general public. This Ordinance is based upon repeated citizen complaints of dangerous, threatening, vicious or destructive animals. The purposes of this Ordinance are as follows: to establish a licensing and insurance requirement for any vicious or destructive animal found or kept in Fulton County; to establish specific penalty provisions; to establish guidelines for determining vicious or destructive animals and their disposition; and to establish immunity from civil or criminal liability under specific circumstances. The Ordinance does not regulate animals within the Corporate City limits of Hickman or Fulton. The full text of the purpose is available for public inspection at the office of the Fulton County Judge/Executive's office, 2216 Myron Cory Drive, during regular business hours. First reading of Fulton County Ordinance 2012-05 was approved September 17, 2012. First of reading of revised Fulton County Ordinance 2012-05 was approved October 15, 2012. Second reading of revised Fulton County Ordinance 2012-05 was approved and adopted on November 13, 2012. Effective date of Fulton County Ordinance 2012-05 is November 13, 2012.

David Gallagher
Fulton County Judge/Executive

AUCTION
REGARDLESS OF WEATHER
Saturday - December 1, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.
Location: West Tn Expo Center On Highway 45W Bypass, Dyer, TN 38330

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- 4000 Ford
- 65 Massey Ferguson New Tires Hyd. Outlet
- 5610 S New Holland 1098 hrs. with loader - one owner
- New Holland To 48 4WD with loader
- 185 Allison Chalmers

Planting Equipment

- JD 750 No Till Drill
- Case 5400 20 Ft. Wheat Drill w/Yetter Dolly
- JD 7100 6 Row Planter
- JD 7300max Merge 13 Row Planter w/Dolly

Tillage Equipment

- Case IH 4800 32 Ft. Field Cultivator
- IH 468 6 Row Do-All
- JD 630 23 Ft. Disc
- JD 568 8 Row Scratcher Do All
- 2 1100 Fd Field Cultivators w/Harrows
- DMI 9 Shank Anhydrous Applicator Complete w/Raven Monitoring System
- Bushhog brand 12 ft. disc, Adams 12 row liquid nitrogen applicator w/ 1,000 gallon tank
- Ford 3 bottom breaking plow
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SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in primary grades were (l to r) Hannah Murphy, second place; Luke Jackson, first place; and Kaylee Young, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in intermediate grades were (l to r) Broc Bridges and Greyson Grissom, second place; Will Jackson and Remington Stewart (tie), first place; and Seth Jones, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)



SCIENCE FAIR 2012 - Winners in the Fulton County Elementary/Middle School science fair in middle school grades were (l to r) Jocelyn Spadafino, Leslie Beth Jackson, and Halley Stewart, second place; Daisy Major, first place; and Noah Miller, third place. (Photo by Barbara Atwill.)

McWhirt

from page 1

I work with the community, students and other teachers while benefiting the academic community.”

While McWhirt is glad she accomplished this goal, she did add that it was by far the most challenging thing she has ever done. “It is extremely time consuming,” she said, “but it also increased my knowledge and awareness so it was worth it.”

The incredibly long process also includes a six essay question test where teachers have no prior knowledge to the types of questions they are required to answer. “My questions were out

of the blue questions on history covering dawn of man to modern times,” she said. Those areas included documents, migration, geography and economics, economics, social movements and conflict.

McWhirt began the process of becoming board certified right after earning her master’s degree from Murray State University. In her eighth year at Fulton County, McWhirt teachers seventh and eighth grade social studies, eighth grade reading and sixth grade related arts. She began her career as an alternative certified teacher, earning her undergraduate degree at Mt.



PARTICIPATING - Beth McWhirt is always showing her fun side by dressing up for various school events. (Photo submitted.)

Holyoke (oldest women’s college in the U.S.) in South Hadley, Massachusetts.

McWhirt is certified in Early Adolescence Social Studies History.

All 50 states, the District of Columbia and hundreds of local school districts recognize National Board Certification as a mark of distinction. Many states and local school districts provide salary incentives and cover the cost for teachers who pursue and achieve this advanced teaching credential.

Profit: Maximize use to benefit the farming operation

By Kenny E. Perry, Extension Agent for Agriculture and Natural Resources

A couple of weeks ago, I was fortunate enough to sit in on a seminar where Dr. Dave Kohl discussed a number of things that will affect farm transitions from one generation to the next. One of the slides that he presented discussed the qualities of long-lived businesses. Among those qualities was a characteristic he identified as frugality. He suggested being conservative on debt, develop a business with strong liquidity and have a plan for profit. It’s this last characteristic, profit, that caught my attention.

Profit may seem like an odd topic for farmers to consider, especially in 2012, because of the severe drought we experienced this year, but for those who had insurance 2012 will be profitable. Farmers are like any business. They need to have a specific plan about how they will use the proceeds to make their business stronger and better. Many producers don’t like to think about this subject. Some do it, but don’t think specifically in these terms and others just accumulate red and green equipment. There’s nothing necessarily wrong with that if the business needs it, but a farmer must apply sound decision making principles for using profit.

Dr. Kohl’s 60:30:10 rule says that profits are used in this manner: 60 percent allocated for efficiency and growth, 30 percent for working capital and inventory and 10 percent to do what you want with. All

Corps begins cutting Missouri River flow

Reduction may halt Mississippi barge traffic

By Jim Salter
Associated Press

St. Louis — The Army Corps of Engineers on Friday began reducing the flow from a Missouri River reservoir, a move expected to worsen low-water conditions on the Mississippi River and potentially bring barge traffic to a halt within weeks.

The Missouri flows into the Mississippi around a bend just north of St. Louis. One result of this year’s drought, the worst in decades, has been a big drop in water levels on both rivers.

The Corps announced earlier this month that it would reduce the outflow from the Gavins Point Dam near Yankton, S.D., to protect the upper Missouri River basin. That drew an outcry from political leaders and businesses downstream, who warned that allowing the Mississippi to drop more could have devastating economic consequences.

Corps spokeswoman Monique Farmer told The Associated Press on Friday that the reduction began as scheduled that morning. By midday, the flow that had started at 37,500 cubic feet per second had been cut to 35,500 cubic feet per second.

Farmer said plans call for a gradual reduction down to 12,000 cubic feet per second by Dec. 11 because of the drought.

“We’re hoping Mother Nature brings some snow this winter,” she said, “but we’ve been told to expect low, stable conditions, that it’s probably going to remain dry.”

The cut in flow comes despite opposition from the governors of Missouri and Illinois and 77 members of Congress whose states sit along the Mississippi

River. Scott Holste, a spokesman for Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon, said his office never received a reply to a letter Nixon sent Army Assistant Secretary Jo-Ellen Darcy, asking that the Corps delay plans to reduce the Missouri River flow.

The Mississippi is nearing historic lows between St. Louis and Cairo, Ill. Barges are already required to carry lighter loads and the middle of the river could be closed to barge traffic if the water level at St. Louis dips below minus 5 feet. It was at minus 0.45 feet Friday.

A zero river reading at St. Louis was established more than a century ago. It’s the point at which people at that time thought the river would never drop below.

The National Weather Service forecast for river levels extends only as far as Dec. 6. It calls for the Mississippi River to get a minus 3.7 feet at St. Louis by then. Businesses that sit on the river and their trade groups expect to get to minus 5 feet by around Dec. 10.

Barges carry 20 percent of the country’s coal and more than 60 percent of its grain exports. Other cargo, including petroleum products, lumber, sand, industrial chemicals and fertilizer, also gets shipped along the Mississippi River.

Barge operators and those who ship on the Mississippi have warned that a shutdown would have disastrous economic consequences on those industries, with companies laying off workers if it lasts for any significant amount of time.

River shipping trade groups have even asked President Barak Obama to intervene.

“This is a pending economic emergency,” said Ann McCulloch, director of public affairs for the American Waterways Operators.

A message left with the White House on Friday was not returned. The weather forecast offers little hope with no big storms in sight.

While the drought has eased in the St. Louis area, it persists in the upper Mississippi and upper Missouri river basins, which feed water to the areas below, said Scott Truett, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in St. Louis.

“That means less runoff and hence low water levels,” Turett said.

The Corps has taken steps to keep the Mississippi open as long as possible, including increasing dredging. It also plans to remove two rock formations in the river in southern Illinois that jut up, potentially scraping the bottoms of barges when water levels are low.

But that work isn’t expected until February, although 15 senators and 62 House members in separate letters asked for the rock removal to be expedited.

Corps officials in Omaha say the drought already has hurt recreation along the upper Missouri River areas. The low water has exposed Native American artifacts, leaving them prone to looting, and if it persists into spring, hydropower could be impacted.

Corps officials in Omaha say they are bound by the Missouri River Master Manual to act in the best interest of the Missouri River basin and what happens on the Mississippi is incidental.

Editor’s Note: Reprinted from the Paducah Sun from Nov. 24.

Port

from page 1

overall barge totals by January.

“Being shut down in June, July and even part of August hurt,” stated Curlin. “We lost grain barges at that time, that had to go by other ways of transportation down the river and there was no way for us to make up for that loss.”

Curlin briefly discussed the situation with the Missouri River and how that affects the water levels on the Mississippi River. Currently, Curlin is keeping a watchful eye on the situation but is unsure just how it will affect the Hickman Harbor and the Mississippi River in this area. (See related story above.) Curlin traveled to Frankfort, Ky., a couple of weeks ago to attend the Water Transportation Advisory Board meeting. “One of the good things that came out of the meeting was the projects proposed by Kentucky Riverports. They were discussed and ranked on how they would be funded from the dispersing of \$500,000 in state money through the Transportation Department that will be available to the riverports,” Curlin informed the board. “Our project was rated as the number one project.”

The proposed projects needed to include two rules. “Those two rules that apply to the funds are to use it for dredging and for access to the ports,” stated Curlin. “That is all that is being said. The

access to ports can have different meanings though dredging is pretty simple, but it is a 50/50 match grant.”

He also added that it will be real tough to get the funds quickly because it has to go through so many processes to actually get the approval. “We would have to plan way in advance to get the money to utilize it for future dredging,” he explained. “Plus this money isn’t available every year. It is being funded for the next two years out of the general fund.”

They did apply for a grant of the access part of the funding. “This will allow the port to have better access to the barges and also address safety issues,” said Curlin. “That is the main reason it was chosen as one of the top rated projects. Other ports have better access to their barges and loading dock.”

It hasn’t been approved, it has just been ranked. The next step is to go to the transportation department, then on to the Governor to approve it. The matching funds for the Hickman Riverport will be approximately \$45,000.

Board member David Lattus praised Curlin and Williamson for being on top of things and knowing what is going on within the port system as reason why good things are in the works for

the Port. “I think that indicates that you both are keeping abreast of things and knowing what is going on and being there is a big plus,” said Lattus.

Curlin also noted that assistance from state legislatures have also been most helpful, pointing out that the dredging was made possible through emergency funding following the 2012 drought.

“Of the things that I do I feel I have given the port avenues,” commented Curlin. “The Hickman Riverport is well known in Washington DC among our senators and representatives. We stay in contact with them constantly. We also have good representation with the levee association, as well.” He will continue to stay in contact with them and is looking at ways to make more contact with state representatives.

Curlin will be attending the Mississippi River Valley Flood Control Association meeting in New Orleans, La., December 6 through December 8.

Board members Lattus, Lynn Major, Lucas Goodman, Will Rice, John Wayne Davie, and Mike Taylor went into executive session at 2:52 p.m. to discuss personnel. The board will meet again in regular session on Tuesday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m.

The Fulton County Fiscal Court is seeking Request for Pricing for the supply of the following interoperable communications equipment and radios:	
4-Mobile VHF P-25 Analog/Digital VHF Radios with DTMF microphones/antenna, installed and programmed to specifications.	
MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS: RF Output Power-50 Watts	
Back Lit DOT Matrix LCD	128 Zones/512 Channels
Dual Priority Scan	LCD Display Character-14
Limited Talk Group	Aux Port-DB25
Priority Monitor Scan	2 Tone
Remote Monitor/Check/Inhibit	Fleet Sync
Emergency Call Functions	MDC 1200
Digital Encryption – AES	136-174 MHz
7-Portable VHF P-25 Analog/Digital VHF Radios with speaker microphones and rapid charger with heavy-duty battery, programmed to specifications.	
MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS: RF Output Power-5 Watts	
Back Lit DOT Matrix LCD	128 Zones/512 Channels
Function/Status LCD Icons	LCD Display Character-14
RSSI Indicator	136-174 MHz
Transmit/Busy/CallAlert/Warn LED	2 Tone
On/Off Volume Knob	Fleet Sync
16-Position Selector Knob	MDC 1200
4 Front Menu-Driven PF Keys	Individual ID List
2 Side PF Keys	Digital Encryption
7-Swivel spring loaded metal belt clip with belt attachment for portable radios	
7 Rapid rate chargers for portables	
1 Programming kit with software and cables to program mobiles and portables bid.	
PROGRAMMING	
Set up P25 Digital and analog Ids for 8 different agencies, and individual radios.	
Program the radios so the ID’s can be seen from each radio in Digital and Analog mode.	
Have programming changed in the Zetron dispatch consoles so the same ID will display the agency and ID of the radio that is transmitting.	
This communication equipment is to be distributed as per the Commonwealth of Kentucky Department of Homeland Security Grant #12-201, and used to enhance interoperability communications in Fulton County. All components must conform to all applicable State and Federal communications requirements. All work must be completed within 45 days of being awarded. Proposals are to include all initial programming cost, and any other associated cost.	
All proposals are to be submitted to the Fulton County Sheriff’s Office, 2216 Myron Cory Drive, Suite 4, P.O. Box 7, Hickman, Kentucky 42050-0070. Marked: Communications Equipment Proposal. Bids will be accepted until December 10, 2012 at 12:00 noon. Bids will then be reviewed and forwarded to the Fulton County Fiscal Court for Action at the meeting on December 14, 2012. The successful bidder will be notified within 5 working days from the award date by written notice. Questions can be directed to Danny R. Zickefoose at the Fulton County Sheriff’s Office.	

See FARMING, page 9

Seat

school system. “Our local presence as a school system is challenged more each year,” stated Patrick. “And with each year comes the burden of increasing our standing of academic excellence to prepare our children for their future.

“Furthermore, our sports program should be moving forward into a realm of community spirit that encourages our youth to desire a position on any of our sports teams,” continued Patrick. “Scholarships are missed way too often from the lack of participation which could prove to be the only spring board for even a handfull of Pilots. As winners in this game, we might



Barry Patrick

say that all graduating students look forward in returning to offer their best to local county once again.”

“Occasionally, opportunities are afforded at special times,” Patrick said on why he wanted to fill the seat, “This is such a case.”

Moore, married to Randy Moore, has lived in the district for four years and in Fulton County for 16 years. Their son Will-Alan is a junior and attends Fulton County High School and daughter, Katie, goes to school in Union City, Tenn.

Moore wants to be a school board member because she believes in community involvement. “I have always felt community minded,” she said.



Jane Moore

“The things we do should be for the good of the community.

“When the seat came open I felt like we needed someone from our district to represent us and I have a child in the system, so it is good to be involved.”

Representatives from the

Commissioner’s Office were in Fulton County on November 28 to interview the candidates. Patrick or Moore will be appointed to the seat by the Commissioner of Education and will begin their post on January 1, 2013.



GREAT SHOT UNDER PRESSURE - Twenty minutes before deer season ended on Saturday, Nov. 25, Amy Langford, daughter of Tim and Karen Langford, shot this eight-point buck at approximately 5:15 p.m. The deer weighed an estimated 185 pounds. (Photo submitted.)

School

of the district’s dollars. We are lucky that to date we have not had to cut any student services. In fact, we have been able to save enough to purchase a bus and add a computer cart to the school system without financing the items. At this point state finances are reported to us as being stable. Of concern is a possible 8% to 10% reduction in January of 2014 in the Federal Title One (1) program.”

Moving on to test scores, principals and assistant principals from all the schools reminded everyone that this is a baseline year.

“It is not pretty,” stated high school Principal Tracey Lamb, “but it is going to get better.” Lamb and Assistant Principal Ellen Murphy detailed a 16-page report that they prepared for the school board, noting good points and bad points along the way.

Academically, the high school free and reduced lunch population is sitting at 92%, Fulton County High School ranked 222 out of 229 schools with an overall composite score of 15.9%. “That is only a .2% drop from last year,” added Lamb. Last year’s PLAN score was 16.1.

One composite score, which did increase from last year, is sitting at 17.3. That is .1 point above the national average of 17.2.

Lamb and Murphy did add that test scores are lower this year because of the new way test scores are now calculated, on a 0-100 point scale. In past years, the state has used a 0-140 point scale to calculate scores. Now that the scale has dropped to 0-100 points, the reported percentage of proficient and distinguished students scores has dropped, as well.

With the high school now classified as a Focus School they will have to do well two years in a row to improve their status. “It is a big mountain to climb,” said Lamb, “but we are going to do it.”

Both Lamb and Murphy pointed out signs of improvement that they have already seen in the last month. More students are showing interest in taking other tests, not just the ACT. “Eight students took the Compass Test,” stated Murphy. “If they meet the benchmark on that test, it helps.”

Lamb has discussed a plan with her staff to improve test scores while working to make them college and career ready. “I asked for specific strategies and activities,” she said. “I even asked for time lines.”

Next it was Julie Jackson and Michael Cole’s turn to discuss the scores at both the middle school and elementary school. “Not long ago we were celebrating being seventh in the state in math at the elementary school,” began Jackson.

Even though the middle school is doing pretty good, Jackson added that the teachers are taking ownership of the data and realize they need to improve at both schools, especially the elementary school. It is now a focus school, like the high school.

“We had no students distinguished in math in third, fourth or fifth grades,” she said. “I am very pleased with middle school social studies and Beth McWhirt’s work.”

“I believe if we focus on achievement, growth will take care of itself,” added Cole. Cole is in his first year as elementary/

middle school assistant principal coming to the district from Graves County. “We need to focus on moving our kids from apprentice to distinguished and proficient, not just decreasing novice.”

“I take full responsibility,” stated Jackson. “We need to do something to get our community involved. It takes the whole village to raise a child.”

Mr. Bledsoe commented, “The large jump in percentages of scores on the PLAN test for the tenth grade and a steady climb on the EXPLORE scores at the eighth grade let us know that we are moving in the right direction. We just need to move faster. We have more students than ever taking college dual credit

classes. We have between now and May to make changes that will affect the test scores for the next reporting cycle. The central office staff will have more input into the Comprehensive School Improvement Planning process than in the past with the focus schools.”

The true test will be to see how the district remains solvent and increases test scores while continuing to absorb more and more state and federal funding cuts.

Other items discussed by the board include a change in the evaluation of the superintendent. Instead of a yearly evaluation, the board will do an informative evaluation in June and a summative in December. This will take affect on January 1, 2013

and will provide both the school board members and the superintendent with tools to better serve the students of the district, while also keeping the superintendent informed on where he stands with the board.

The board also asked for another staff survey to take place with the superintendent supplying the questions for the survey. This will provide them with information on where the district was, is and will be.

Tabled items include approval of the audit, the purchase of a school bus, and the school field trip board policy.

The meeting adjourned at 10:11 p.m. The next meeting of the board is slated for Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m.

2012 Hickman County Arts Fair

Sherry Roberts
Clinton, KY

Sherry Roberts, a local photographer and writer, has worked since last May photographing and researching some of the old-est barns in Hickman County. The result is a calendar, “Hickman



County’s Proud Old Barns” which features twenty-one of Hickman County’s old-est barns, two of which date back to the Civil War. Be sure to get one to preserve some of Hickman County’s treasured history.

Poet Dorothy Nell Harper
Clinton KY

Hickman County’s Poet Laureate Dorothy Nell Harper’s books are written in lyrical form in verses, taking the reader around the world, and introducing the reader to her family and nature and life in general. Books are \$14.95 each plus tax.

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Chances to win a tin of Dorothy Nell’s famous fudge will be available at the fair.



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Author Herbert Martin
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Children’s books include: “In the Garden” “Catch a Falling Leaf” and “Egbert the Acrophobic Eagle”

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SENIOR Spotlight

Matthew Henderson
Parent’s names: Jessica and Tommy Henderson
Brothers and sisters names: Johnathon Henderson
Church and/or community involvement: West Baptist and worked the dunking booth at the Pecan Festival.
Plans after graduation: Go to WKCTC for Body Repair
Clubs, activities, accomplishments, and etc.: Skills USA and was in FFA
Favorite part of school: Not having school
Something interesting about yourself: I like hunting and fishing and my favorite truck is an F250 Super duty
Fondest memory while at Fulton County High School: When I got in the middle of the gym and started dancing during pep session.

Jeral Makeda Mack
Parent’s names: Gerald Mack and Faye Mack
Brothers and sisters names: Patricia Avery, Alicia Mack, Cortney Jackson, Ariel Hunter, Dale Freeman, Julissa Mack, and A’anylah Freeman.
Church and/or community involvement: Pleasant Hill M.B.C. and cashier at E.W. James
Plans after graduation: I plan on attending Spelman College in Atlanta, Ga., with a major in nursing, and then further becoming a Neonatal Nurse Practitioner.
Clubs, activities, accomplishments, and etc.: Junior and Senior Class President, Beta Club Secretary, Beta Club President, HOSA secretary, Spanish Club, Pilot Army, KUNA, GSP, Principal’s Award, 1st Main Pecan Festival, 11th grade Homecoming Maid and Student of the Month.
Favorite part of school: Holding it down with my office crew: Abby G., Mrs. Liz, Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Lamb
Something interesting about yourself: I am very outspoken and I love to socialize. And my friends say that I look like a whole lot of celebrities: Fantasia, Oprah and Erykah Badu!! LOL
Fondest memory while at Fulton County High School: Junior year in AP Biology. We had a drug bust and Ronieka started crying because she said, “I’m glad that I don’t smoke weed! Funniest moment ever!!”

BEST WISHES

Matthew Henderson
We Love You, Mom and Dad

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